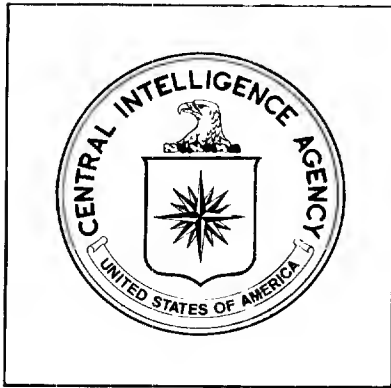


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## STAFF NOTES:

# Western Europe Canada International Organizations

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## WESTERN EUROPE – CANADA – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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Polls Predict Marked Gains for Moderate Liberals  
in Danish Elections

The latest opinion poll, released just five days before the Danish election, confirms earlier surveys predicting that Prime Minister Hartling's Moderate Liberal Party will more than double its representation in the 179-seat parliament.

According to the poll the Moderate Liberals, who have governed the country for the past 13 months with only 22 seats, will capture 55 seats on January 9. Danish polls have been unreliable in the past, however, and this figure may be inflated. In the 1973 election, the polls predicted that the Center Democrats would wind up with 29 seats, when in fact they won only 14.

Even if the Moderate Liberals unseat the Social Democrats as Denmark's largest party, they will still lack a clear majority. A Moderate Liberal-Social Democratic coalition is a possibility but a conflict between the leaders of the two parties makes such an outcome unlikely. The most probable result is a continuation of the present minority Liberal government. (Confidential)

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